

Message Text

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64

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AEC-07 AID-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 RSC-01

SAM-01 OES-05 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 PA-02

USIA-15 PRS-01 /119 W

----- 078223

R 161810Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6618

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS LONDON 16423

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, SA

SUBJECT: "FINANCIAL TIMES" INTERVIEW WITH SAUDI OIL
MINISTER YAMANI

1. DECEMBER 16 "FINANCIAL TIMES" ARTICLE BY RICHARD
JOHNS REPORTS SAUDI MINISTER YAMANI STATED IN INTERVIEW
THAT "THE AVERAGE (PRICE FOR OIL) FOR SAUDI ARABIA WILL
DEFINITELY BE LESS THAN \$10.12" AGREED TO AT OPEC CON-
FERENCE. ACCORDING TO FT, IT IS UNDERSTOOD, HOWEVER,
THAT SAUDI ARABIA DID UNDERTAKE OPEC MINISTERIAL NOT TO
SELL FOR LESS THAN \$9.84 A BARREL WHICH WAS AVERAGE
WEIGHTED PRICE FOR ARABIAN LIGHT PRIOR TO LATEST OPEC
CONFERENCE (AND ABU DHABI DECISIONS). FT ATTRIBUTES TO
NON-SAUDI SOURCES YAMANI STATEMENT TO OTHER OPEC MEMBERS
THAT MAIN PURPOSE OF SAUDI SALES BELOW \$10.12 WOULD BE
TO PUT THE SQUEEZE ON ARAMCO SHAREHOLDERS.

2. YAMANI REPORTEDLY TOLD FT THAT IT WOULD BE "DAY-
DREAMING" TO EXPECT BASIC PRICE OF OIL TO BE CUT BY
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\$2 TO \$4 A BARREL. HE ASSERTED "WHAT MATTERS IS RE-

CYCLING OF SURPLUSES. THIS IS WHAT WE HAVE TO DO AND
WHAT WE ARE PREPARED TO DISCUSS WITH THE CONSUMERS."

SPIERS

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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